

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. Cancelled

2. Cancelled

3. Cancelled

4. Cancelled

5. Cancelled

6. Cancelled

7.(currently amended) A magnetic recording medium for communication with a transducer moving relative to the recording medium along a line of relative transducer motion, comprising:

a substrate having a substrate surface;

a seed layer disposed on the substrate surface;

a soft magnetic underlayer disposed on the seed layer, the soft magnetic underlayer comprising a magnetic material having a magnetic moment larger than 1.7 Teslas, the soft magnetic underlayer having a texture that provides a magnetic easy axis that has an easy axis alignment parallel to the line of relative transducer motion;

a magnetic storage layer disposed on the soft magnetic underlayer; and

~~The magnetic recording medium of Claim 1~~ wherein the texturing maintains the easy axis alignment in the presence of an externally applied field.

8. Cancelled

9. Cancelled

10. Cancelled

11. Cancelled

12. Cancelled

13. Cancelled

14. Cancelled

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16. Cancelled

17. Cancelled

18. Cancelled

19. Cancelled

20. Cancelled

21. Cancelled

22. Cancelled

23. (currently amended) A method of manufacturing a magnetic recording medium for communication with a transducer moving relative to the recording medium along a line of relative transducer motion, comprising:

providing a substrate having a substrate surface;

depositing a seed layer on the substrate surface;

depositing a soft magnetic underlayer on the seed layer, the soft magnetic underlayer comprising a magnetic material having a magnetic moment larger than 1.7 teslas, the soft magnetic underlayer having a texture that provides a magnetic easy axis that has an easy axis alignment parallel to the line of relative transducer motion;

depositing a magnetic storage layer on the soft magnetic underlayer; and

~~The method of Claim 18 further comprising~~ selecting a seed layer material from the group: ruthenium, permalloy and tantalum-copper to reduce coercivity H_C in the soft magnetic underlayer.

24. (original) The method of Claim 23 further comprising applying an external magnetic field to establishes the texture of the soft magnetic underlayer.

25. Cancelled

26. Cancelled

27. Cancelled

28. Cancelled

29. Cancelled.

30. Cancelled.

31. Cancelled

32. Cancelled

33. Cancelled